JAPS ARE COMING;

averaging only 113 acres, with a uation of \$56 per acre, or \$6,375

The Japanese in Texas as a group have brought more wealth into this country than they have sent out. Very few of them have made large sums of money, and the major part that has been made has been returned to the farm in the way of improvements and live stock. In this way they are increasing their investments in this country. Comparing this group of people with other foreigners, the Japanese are found to be far superior to any other colonists in the Seuth as far as land owned and heavily capitalized farm enterprises are concerned.

Standard of Living. The Japanese in Texas as a group

Standard of Living.

The clothing worn by the Japanese men and women is not unlike that of their American neighbors, except that sandals instead of shoes are worn in neld work and are left outside the kitchen door while the wearer is

Ritchen door while the wearer is within.

On the farms purchased by the Japanese th houses were already built, and the Japanese have done little to improve them. As a whole they are more inclined to repair and build new barns and warehouses than they are to repair or improve their own homes. The majority of the houses are poorly kept, and girt and confusion are everywhere apparent. Many of the houses are inhabited by men only, and the absence of women may in a measure account for this lack of good housekeeping. But even in some of the houses where the housewife is found the same conditions exist, leading to the impression that the Japanese are not more orderly or efficient homemakers than some of the South European immigrants.

The houses are provided with very

makers than some of the South European immilgrants.

The houses are provided with very little furniture, boxes being used in many instances in place of chars. Choap from beds are sometimes seen, but a large number of orientals sleep on wooden bunks covered with a thin mattress of rice straw.

Rice cooked in various forms with fresh and dried fish ferins the principal food. The settlers do not appear to be hearty caters, and their dictaries vary very little from day to day. In many cases the men do the cookins, and the condition of the kitchens in which they work is very unsanitary.

On the rice plantation the woman's work is in the home. There she has a re of the kitchen, and provides meals for ten afteen or more men working on the farm. On the truck farms where women are found they aid materially in the cultivation of the garden crops, helping their husbands to weed, cultivate and harvest the regarding. The group of Japanese in Texas is so small and of such recent origin that the children have not reached the age where they can be called upon to aid in work. Malaria affects the Japanese whe live in the low rice districts. They are very susceptible to this disease, which is practically the only allment that affects them.

The Japanese seem to be very fond

The Japanese seem to be very fond

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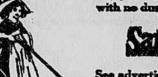
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of travel; many have taken trips through the United States, and every year two or three heads o. families journey back to Japan for two or three months, returning possibly with their wives and children. In practically all the houses are seen copies of American newspapers and magazines, besides Japanese publications.

Americans are employed as drivers of wagons and wherever help is needed in threshing.

The Japanese rice farm which ranks wharton county, seven miles from Wharton county, seven miles from Wharton, the county seat. The owner of this property came there from Webster, Texas, in January, 1997, and

Opportunities for Employment.

On all the farms operated by Japanese, Japanese labor so far as possible — employed. During harvest Americans are also hired, who work side by side with the Japanese. On some of the large farms Americans are employed as engineers, having under their supervision ail of the farm machinery. At first the Japanese hired Americans exclusively to do the mechanical work. Each American thus employed war given a Japanese helper, who constantly watched every movement to learn all he could from observation and by questioning the American. In most cases, after the American had been employed for a year or so he was discharged and his Japanese helper took his place. Opportunities for Employment.

so he was discharged and his Japanese helper took als place.

As farm aborers the Japanese are considered very hardy, diligent workers, and, as before stated, Japanese farmers almost invariably employ men of their own nationality where this is possible. When other help is necessary Americans are hired. Sometimes during the busy season in the rice nelds Japanese from Colorado and New Mexico come to Texas and assist in the harvesting of the rice. The rate of pay of Japanese farm hands varies. Many of them work for \$10 to \$20 a month and their board and room. Those who are working for this small wage are usually young men who have been in this country but a year or so, and who want to secure a good working knowledge of the crops and the manner in which they are grown in this country? When the Americans are hired on the farm they receive the prevailing rate of wages in the locality in which they are employed, generally ranging from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per day, without board.

Social Life.

The Japanese farmers in Texas ap-

generally ranging from \$1.25 to \$1.50 per day, without board.

Social Life.

The Japanese farmers in Texas appear to have very little time for social diversions. They are constantly at work to improve their farms, and are so few in number that they have no epportunity to form any social organizations of their own, and very seldom participate in the amusements organized by the natives.

The Japanese are not found in large or isolated colonies. The largest group is near Webster, running down into the small town of League City. Undoubtedly, the Japanese gather there because the first Japanese settler that came to the district raised rice with such success that reports of his ability spread and his fellow-countrymen began to move in. This is the only community where segregation can be said to have taken place. Of course, the farms in the rice district are so large that they permit very little close neighbority association, but on the whole the Japanese are willing to mingle with their neighbors to learn American ways and adopt American customs.

Throughout the localities in which the Japanese have settled very little race prejudice against them has been manifested. Practically none of the Americans foster any prejudice, and it is said that the Japanese remain so questly by themselves that were it not for their industry in improving their farms the neighbors would not know of their existence.

Churches and Schools.

Churches and Schools.

In Texas the Japanese have no separate church, owing to their isolation from each other and their small numbers. Frequently they attend the local churches near their farms. There they imple with the Americans. On account of the preponderance of single men and the great distance of the farms, generally, from town, educational conditions cannot be characterized as favorable. In fact, in a number of places no educational facilities seem to be available. In two localities where the Japanese are prosperling the owners of the farms have secured private tutors to instruct their children in reading writing and English. On the other farms the children seem to pick up such learning as they can, but the number of children is so small that there is very little possibility of establishing public schools at present. On some of the farms the Japanese maintain their own stores, solling greceries and ciothing to the Japanese help that they employ, thus bringing on to the fire farms the same commissary arrangement that is found on the large cotton plantations. Occasionally of their existence. Churches and Schools. ary arrangement that is found on the large cotton plantations. Occasionally hey sell proceries to American neigh-

sary arrangement that is found on the large cotton plantations. Occasionally they sell groceries to American neighbors.

Effect of the Settlement.

Wherever the Japanese have settled on farms they have made many additions and improvemente. They have cleared the ditches, built new canalistions and improvemente. They have cleared the ditches, built new canalistions and improvemente. They have cleared the ditches, built new canalistic of the farms of the farm of the farm

Wharton the county seat. The owner of this property came there from Webster, Texas, in January, 1997, and bought 2,224 acres of land at \$35 an acre, agreeing to pay for the land in ten equal instalments, with interest at 7 per cent. on the unpaid principal. There are now living on this platation seventeen men, six women and tweive children, seven of the children having been born in America. The proprietor of this farm rents a large number of acres to his tenants, receiving two-fifths of the crop as rent; the landlord furnishes the land, the water necessary for the cultivation of the crop and the tenant houses.

The Japanese rice farm third in size

the crop and the tenant houses.

The Japanese rice farm third in size is ten miles from Beaumont, in the town of Fannett. The proprietor of this farm was a banker and wealthy land owner in Japan, Having heard of the wonderful opportunities offered for rice culture in Southern Texas, he decided to come to America and try life as a rice farmer. He settled in Fannett in the year 1905, purchasing 1.731 acres of land at a cost of \$35, 690. He has no tenants, and manages the farm himself, working all of it by means of farm laborers. There are employed on hir land four Japanese besides himself, the rest of the work being done by Americans and negroes.

The largest group of Japanese rice

being done by Americans and negroes.

The largest group of Japanese rice growers is situated in Webster. Three rice farms, with a total of 1,857 acres, are owned, and two are rented, with a total of 850 acres. Sixty-six men, eight women and two children live there. This is the largest settlement of Japanese in the State, but the farms are widely scattered. of Japanese in the same widely scattered.

Truck Farms.

truck farms

The Japanese truck farms near Houston and League City may be men-tioned as illustrative of general con-ditions. The four farms owned by the truckers average twenty-nine acres in

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area and the four that are rented forty each. They cultivate less than ten acres each, and practice the most intensive methods of culture; no space is wasted, and every inch of ground that they have in cultivation is made to produce something. This is a characteristic for which the Americans praise the Japane. The vegetables they sell are always cleaner, fresher and more attractive in appearance than those placed on the market by the ordinary farmer. They raise all kinds of vegetables, furnishing lettuce, cabbage, radishes, potatoes, corn and other staples to the inhabitants of Houston. The Japanese, however, usually want to be rice farmer, and the trucking 'ndustry is but one of the stepping-stones to a rice farm.

The two orange farms owned by the Japanese in Texas are located in League City, and comprise thirty-six and forty acres respectively. About half the land in each case has been planted to oranges, but as these or-chards have been planted only four years the results cannot be predicted. Judging from the success that the Americans have had with their orchards it seems reasonable to believe that the Japanese attempts will be profitable also.

Nursery Products.

Like the grange overbards, the com-

Nursery Products.

Nursery Products.

Nursery Products.

Like the orange orchards, the commercial nurseries are recent innovations in the localities in which they are established. One of the nurseries is located at Mission, Hidagio county, Mission is in the central part of the county, in the misst of newly opened land, made serviceable by building irrigation canals and pumping water into them from the Rio Grande, thus supplying water to large tracts of land that have hitherto been useless for agriculture. The proprietor came to the locality April 20, 1909, and took options on 1,200 acres at \$12 per acre; he also secured rights on twenty acres of land nearer town for \$100 per acre. None of this land was available for agriculture until water had been secured, so he rented 400 acres of land at \$\$ per acre per year, including the price of water. The proprietor of this tract proposes to organize a stock company with a capital of \$100,000, to be laid out in buying and improving more land and building irrigation ditches. If the plans work out successfully one of the most extensive nursery projects in the South will be established.

In Alvin is located the main nursery

established.

In Alvin is located the main nursery area of the Alvin Japanese Nursery, a company composed of two Japanese. They own 162 acres in Alvin and thirteen acres ear the city limits of Houston. At Alvin they grow all their stock, making a specialty of orange and fig trees. In Houston they have an office and display ground. The orange and fig trees are sold both to the wholesale and the retail trade. The nursery was started only four years ago, yet they now have seventy-five acres in fruit trees. By having an office in Houston it saves their customers from an extra trip to Alvin to inspect the stock and their orange groves.

to inspect the stock and their orange groves.

The orange grown most extensively is the Satsuma, introduced into this country from Japan several years ago. The fruit is well received in the market. That raised in Texas is said to be superior in size, of much better quality, and of earlier maturity than that raised in California.

It is hard to say what will be the outcome of the nursery industry that has been started by the Japanese, as the orchards are just in their infancy, but those who have knowledge of such erops and have taken care to inspect the work done by the Japanese say that they have made a successful start. The nurserymen sell their products throughout the State, shipping the young fruit stock wherever it is ordered, and in the course of time a well-established business seems assured.

Houston is the centre of the Jap.

time a well-established business seems assured.

Houston is the centre of the Japanese in Texas, and there is located a representative of the Japanese Industrial Company, who has his headquarters in San Francisco. This man helps the Japanese when they come to Houston either to sell or buy goods, No co-operative marketing has developed among these people, yet having a sort of a sales agent, as it were, permits the Japanese to secure better prices than they would if left to their own resources.

FAMOUS SOY BEAN GOOD IN VIRGINIA Wachapreague

Man Who Has Experience Tells How Best to Grow the

To make a grain crop or seed to sell, the soy bean should be seeded as early in May as possible, as they take quite a long period to mature. On the other hand, if only desired to cut for hay or grazing for hogs any time during the month of June will do, but of course, the earlier the better. As to planting, if you desire them to mature to form seed to sell or for your own use, it is best to plant in rows about two or two and half feet apart, and the beans dropped or drilled anywhere from four to eight inches apart in the row. The peanut planter can be used for this work, which will plant them most any distance destred; as we always plant Spanish peanuts from four to eight inches apart and anywhere from one to three in a hill. Planted in rows as stated above, allows frequent cultivation, which results in better seed. For hay or grazing sown broadcast is generally found best, but not quite so thickly as you would the cowpen, as they grow larger or more bunchy-like.

"It is the idea of a good many that

as they grow larger or more bunchy-like.

"It is the idea of a good many that they produce a hay far superior to the cowpea hay, as it has a more strengthening or nutritive value, and is also much easier to cure. Soy beans are nearly (if not equally) as valuable for improving the soil as the cowpea, when not allowed to form seed. Some sow both of the above crops together, and state that they make excellent feed or hay in this way. But I don't approve of this, as the soy bean requires a longer period for growth over the cowpea; hence, the best results from both cannot possibly be obtained. Or at least that is my idea, as I have never tried or experienced it. To secute the best results from the soy bean it should be grown in fairly tertile soil, and sown early in May, arter a thorough preparation of the soil has been made. They require very little fertilizer of any kind, provided the soil is in good state of fertility. But if not, it should have sown on it broadcast before thre seed is planted from 200 to 300 pounds of acid phospointe per acre and this well worked into soil. I trust this article contains the information the reader desires, and may also be beneficial on helpful to some others the coming season."

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